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STEPANAKERT JEDICAL SERVICES IMPROVED

The Magorno-Karabakh Oblast United Hospital and Polyclinic (chief doctor, L. A. Shamkhalov) at Stepanakert is the largest such institution in the Transcaucagus. Since January 1949 the institution has been divided into five departments and the medical service available to the population of the city has been greatly improved. A pathologicoanatomical department with a complete pathological laboratory is now a major service of the institution.

Two new clinical departments -- ophthalmology and otorhinolaryngology -- each with 10 beds, have been organized. A serological laboratory has also been organized. This laboratory, in addition to those attached to the various clinicodiagnostic laboratories in the infectious wisease and therapeutic departments, permits staff doctors to make many of their own analyses.

Many of the doctors have recently returned from Baku where they attended special advancement and specialization courses. Another group is studying there at present.

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